

ANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL



Student Club Guide 2023-2024

It is never too late to be what you might have been.

- George Eliot

Introducing Ancaster High School & It's Pride

Ancaster High School prides itself on providing students with relevant and engaging learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. These experiences are based on the various needs, interests, and abilities of all our students and help make Ancaster a great school.



The purpose of this guide is to provide you with an outline of the clubs that currently exist at Ancaster. The clubs have been divided into four main categories: academic, altruism awareness & social, the arts, and athletics. You are encouraged to review this guide to determine what clubs interest you so that you can sign up and become an active member of our school community. As you will see, there are many opportunities for you to get involved, meet new people, and have fun!


Our clubs are initiated and run based on student interest. You can connect with a staff member should you and your peers wish to start a new activity or club. We look forward to supporting your learning at Ancaster High and are excited to see your talents in the classroom, on stage, on our playing fields, and out in the community!




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Academic Clubs


Business & Investment Strategy Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. N. Lapko	
Who we are / What we do	The goal of this club is to learn about key investment principles, how to play the stock market in real-time, and how investing for the future works. Students will put their learning to the test by participating in an 8-week online simulation where they manage their stocks in a real-life competition.	
Meeting Frequency	Thursdays at Lunch in room 1031 Contacts: nlapko@hwdsb.on.ca	

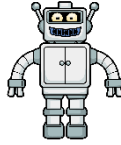
DECA		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. S. Ciulini & Ms. M. Toor	
Who we are / What we do	DECA is Canada's largest youth business organization where students compete both provincially and internationally in various marketing/general business competitions.	
Meeting Frequency	Tuesdays at Lunch (September to February) in room 1029 Contacts: sciulini@hwdsb.on.ca and mtoor@hwdsb.on.ca	


Homework Club/Literacy OSSLT		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. H. Harris & Mr. S. Wilson	
Who we are / What we do	The Homework Club provides academic support and study strategies, including time management. Students receive instruction on literacy/numeracy and test taking strategies. The club also addresses support for the Literacy Test (OSSLT Prep) prior to the test dates.	
Meeting Frequency	Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays in Room 2036 (starts mid-October) Contact: hharris@hwdsb.on.ca	

HOSA		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. J. Crowe & Ms. P. Parker	
Who we are / What we do	The mission of HOSA Canada is to enable secondary and postsecondary students to become leaders in the healthcare industry by enabling future health professionals to acquire knowledge, skills training and leadership development through competition. Each year, we hold Canada's largest health science competition for secondary and postsecondary students.	
Meeting Frequency	Meetings are Thursday's at lunch in room 1102W Contact: jacrowe@hwdsb.on.ca or pkiriako@hwdsb.on.ca	

Math Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. J. Hendriks	
Who we are / What we do	Dive into some interesting mathematical challenges & try to problem solve your way out of them.	
Meeting Frequency	Club meets weekly in Room 2030 Contact: jhendrik@hwdsb.on.ca	


Peer Tutoring Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. J. Murray	
Who we are / What we do	Peer Tutoring Club is all about students helping students to better their academic and study skills	
Meeting Frequency	Students can be connected by accessing the following link; www.hwdsb.on.ca/ancasterhigh/student-services/peer-tutoring Meetings are arranged between the students involved Contact: jwmurray@hwdsb.on.ca	

Robotics Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. R. Fletcher and Mr. J. Hendriks	
Who we are / What we do	Come learn how to build & program FTC robots with our Robotics Team! Members will learn how to program using Java Programming Language. The end goal of the club is to compete in HWDSB competitions.	
Meeting Frequency	Mondays and Wednesdays after school in room 2020 Contact: rfletche@hwdsb.on.ca	


STEAM		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. J. Hendriks	
Who we are / What we do	Investigate concepts and complete projects related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math	
Meeting Frequency	Weekly meetings in room 2030 Contact: jhendrik@hwdsb.on.ca	


Altruism, Awareness, & Social Clubs

Aerospace Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. C. Vezeau	
Who we are / What we do	The Aerospace club is an all-purpose club focused on discussing all things physics and collaboratively work on aerospace projects to engage our collective scientific and creative minds.	
Meeting Frequency	Meetings are on Monday at lunch in Room 2068 Contact: cvezeau@hwdsb.on.ca	

Announcement Crew		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. A. Grant	
Who we are / What we do	This student group delivers morning announcements prepared by staff over the school PA system. The crew updates the school about events, meetings, athletics, and all things Ancaster.	
Meeting Frequency	Every morning from 8am – 8:25am Contact: asgrant@hwdsb.on.ca	

Automotive Safety Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. R. Fletcher & Mr. M. Zuccato	
Who we are / What we do	This student group purpose is to promote safe and responsible driving and engages in educational slide shows, interactive activities including the driving simulator, and much more.	
Meeting Frequency	Group meets Tuesdays in room 1017 Contact: rfletche@hwdsb.on.ca or mzuccato@hwdsb.on.ca	


Best Buddies		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. J. Crowe	
Who we are / What we do	Best Buddies is an internationally recognized organization that strives to build friendships between people with and without intellectual disabilities. Students often sign-up for one day a week and work/play/hangout with the class or individuals in the class.	
Meeting Frequency	Weekly in the Comprehensive Classroom Contact: jacrowe@hwdsb.on.ca	


Blood Drive Heroes		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. C. Vezeau	
Who we are / What we do	The Heroes of Ancaster gather 2-3 times per year to raise awareness of the need for life giving blood. Alongside raising awareness, we organize blood drives with the Canadian Blood Services of Ancaster to recruit new donors & encourage repeat donors. All are welcome, but you must be 17+ to donate blood to Canadian Blood Services.	
Meeting Frequency	Periodically throughout the year Contact: cvezeau@hwdsb.on.ca	


Chess Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. R. Fletcher	
Who we are / What we do	Come learn the classic strategy game? Veteran or beginner players are welcome. Friendly competitions and coaching will be arranged and provided by Mr. Fletcher.	
Meeting Frequency	Weekly meetings/games on Fridays in the Library/LLC at lunch. Contact: rfletche@hwdsb.on.ca	


Dungeons & Dragons Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. G. Malcolm	
Who we are / What we do	The D&D Club is a group of likeminded individuals that have come to learn and love various worlds of fantasy and role-play through a variety of formats including television/movies, board/card games, and video games.	
Meeting Frequency	Fridays at lunch in the big Art Room 1078 (it is in the tunnel) Contact: gmalcolm@hwdsb.on.ca	


Grad Committee		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. T. Harrop & Mr. S. Nicholson	
Who we are / What we do	This committee meets to plan and run prom, semi-formal, and a grad brunch for the graduating students. Two senior students organize these events with staff advisors and their own sub-committees.	
Meeting Frequency	Meetings occur as needed Contact: tharrop@hwdsb.on.ca or snichols@hwdsb.on.ca	


Healthy Action Team (HAT)		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. S. Wilson	
Who we are / What we do	<p>With the mandate and support of public health, HAT is a group of highly motivated members dedicated to creating a Healthy School Environment from a holistic perspective that considers; the physical, physiological and emotional well-being of our peers to facilitate optimal academic success and student engagement. We plan and organize a variety of events designed to improve the overall emotional, mental, & physical well-being of all. This experience offers leadership opportunities and potential access to post-secondary scholarships.</p>	
Meeting Frequency	<p>Meetings take place on Thursdays in room 1037 Contact: smwilson@hwdsb.on.ca</p>	


Knitting & Crocheting Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. S. Waite	
Who we are / What we do	<p>This club is looking for creative-minded individuals with a passion for knitting or crocheting, or those looking to learn these skills. The goal of the club is to make as many items as possible to donate to homeless shelters, hospitals, and those in need.</p>	
Meeting Frequency	<p>Meetings are on Mondays at lunch in 2016 Contact: swaite@hwdsb.on.ca</p>	

Make-A-Wish		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. C. O'Sullivan	
Who we are / What we do	<p>This group organizes fundraisers in order to donate our money to the Make a Wish Foundation to support a terminally ill child's wish.</p>	
Meeting Frequency	<p>Meetings are on Tuesdays at lunch in room 1078 Contact: cosulliv@hwdsb.on.ca</p>	

MedLife		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. M. Kay	
Who we are / What we do	<p>Medicine, Education, and Development for Low-Income Families Everywhere is a group dedicated to making change. At AHS we are dedicated to making a positive impact on our local community, through volunteering, raising money, and hosting information sessions/workshops. It's also about making connections with likeminded individuals and working together to build a better community.</p>	
Meeting Frequency	<p>Meetings are on Fridays at lunch in room 1079 Contact: mkay@hwdsb.on.ca</p>	


Positive Space		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. J. Murray and Ms. A. McNeil	
Who we are / What we do	Positive Space provides a safe and inclusive space for students to discuss the experiences of LGBTQ+ persons. The goal of this human rights group is to promote equity, understanding, and acceptance of all students within the Ancaster High community.	
Meeting Frequency	Meetings are Tuesdays at lunch in Room 1037 Contact: jwmurray@hwdsb.on.ca or alymcnei@hwdsb.on.ca	


Prayer Group		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. B. Woof	
Who we are / What we do	Prayer group provides students of all religious denominations with an opportunity to attend Friday prayer in a safe school space. Participating students are required to register in the main office and will receive a prayer pass (for attendance purposes).	
Meeting Frequency	Students meet on Fridays for prayer according to the calendar. Please contact Ms. Woof for details/updates. Contact: bwoof@hwdsb.on.ca	

Royal Gazette		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. S. Bentham & Mr. D. Taylor	
Who we are / What we do	<i>The Royal Gazette</i> is a student-run newspaper established in 2017. Student reporters, photographers, and creative writers have a forum for their work. Digital distribution of the Gazette occurs monthly.	
Meeting Frequency	Weekly Wednesday meetings in the Library Learning Commons (LLC) Contact: sbentham@hwdsb.on.ca or dtaylor@hwdsb.on.ca	


Student Council		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. J. Turner	
Who we are / What we do	Student Council is composed of a group of elected students including our co-Presidents, co-Vice Presidents, Grade Reps, Treasurer, Social Chairs, and more. These dynamic student leaders provide a platform to share their ideas with school administration and other staff to help improve Ancaster High. This group is socio-political, diverse and action oriented as it implements student suggestions to create lasting and impactful social change at AHS and in the community.	
Meeting Frequency	Meetings are on Monday at lunch in Room 1037 Contacts: jturner@hwdsb.on.ca	

Artistic & Creative Clubs


AUD Squad	
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. S. Panavas & Ms. J. Turner
Who we are / What we do	<p>The Auditorium Squad is a group of students who have a passion for, and interest, in technological aspects of the theatre. The Aud Squad members work on the lights, sound board, and projector, and handle microphones, and tech equipment rentals. They work as part of musicals, talent shows, guest presenters, assemblies, and concerts.</p> 
Meeting Frequency	Meetings are Thursdays in the auditorium Contact: jturner@hwdsb.on.ca or spanavas@hwdsb.on.ca

Concert Band	
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. M. Wylie
Who we are / What we do	<p>We play a diverse selection of music and perform for a variety of events. Instruments include; flute, clarinet, alto sax, baritone sax, tenor sax, trumpet, French horn, trombone, tuba, keyboard, percussion, string bass, electric bass and more.</p> 
Meeting Frequency	Rehearsals Tuesdays & Thursdays at 7am in the Music Room (2044) Contact: mwylie@hwdsb.on.ca

(NST) Drama Festival Club	
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. S. Panavas
Who we are / What we do	<p>Students will participate in the NTS Drama Festival – Ontario, a play competition featuring 12,000 students from across the province. Actors and stage crew will rehearse and perform a play that will compete against other schools in HWDSB. Students can win a variety of awards and scholarships. The top plays are selected for regional and then provincial competition rounds. Look for auditions in early November. Rehearsals are after school from January to March. Performance is at Westdale following March Break.</p>
Meeting Frequency	Begins in November meeting twice weekly (exact dates to be determined) Contact: spanavas@hwdsb.on.ca


Musical Theatre Cast and Crew		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. J. Turner	
Who we are / What we do	Musical Theatre is a course at Ancaster High School which works to prepare a musical for a live theatre audience! To put on a musical, we require many extra hands to be part of our cast and crew. You can come join us with lights, sound, set design, dancing, singing, and so much more.	
Meeting Frequency	This group meets in Semester 2 and our schedule varies based on the show and its rehearsals. Contact: jturner@hwdsb.on.ca	


Photography & Video Club		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. A. Sanders	
Who we are / What we do	A group of students who have a passion for Photography, Photoshop, and Videography. We take videos and photos for the yearbook and competitions.	
Meeting Frequency	Group meets on Tuesdays at lunch in D1/Room 1065 Contact: ansander@hwdsb.on.ca	

Rock Band		
Staff Advisor(s)	Mr. J. Vallance	
Who we are / What we do	If you like rock music come on out and jam with Mr. Vallance and Rock Band! A great opportunity to meet rock musicians in the school and discuss all things Rock N Roll! The group performs at various events throughout the year as well.	
Meeting Frequency	Thursdays at Lunch in the Music Room (2044) Contact: jvallanc@hwdsb.on.ca	

Yearbook		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. A. McNeil	
Who we are / What we do	The Yearbook Club is a student-led initiative which creates an annual Yearbook for all students. We invite all students to participate by offering photos and/or joining the club directly We are looking for Co-Editors/Presidents, Photographers, and Designers. All grades are welcome. This is an excellent way to develop leadership and communication skills.	
Meeting Frequency	Wednesdays at lunch in room 1037 Contact: alymcnei@hwdsb.on.ca	

Athletic & Active Clubs

Ancaster Athletic Executive Council (AAC)		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. D. Adams, Mr. S. Gillen, Ms. E. Piccioni, Mrs. J. Schurer & Mr. M. Schurer	
Who we are / What we do	The AAC is focused on providing all students with unique experiences that create a sense of community within the school. We offer intramurals, school-wide athletic events, fundraisers, and BBQs throughout the school year.	
Meeting Frequency	Meetings are on Tuesdays at lunch in room 1061 (Health room) Contact: daadams@hwdsb.on.ca or sgillen@hwdsb.on.ca or epiccion@hwdsb.on.ca or JSCHURER@hwdsb.on.ca or mschurer@hwdsb.on.ca	

Dance Team		
Staff Advisor(s)	Ms. L. Mifflin, Ms. B. Surtel, and Ms. E. Logan	
Who we are / What we do	<p>The AHS dance team is a dedicated group of students that audition to be a part of the team. The team does not allow drop-ins as it works-on routines throughout the year. We provide a space where students build confidence and get their bodies moving. Our team is consistently working, learning, and performing student-led choreography, in a variety of styles.</p> <p>The team is looking to compete and perform at various events including; Arts Nights, Football Games, Lunchtime shows, the Musical and more!</p>	
Meeting Frequency	The team practices Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday at lunch in the Auditorium. Contact: lmifflin@hwdsb.on.ca or bsurtel@hwdsb.on.ca or elogan@hwdsb.on.ca	

School Teams

Review the charts below to see which sports are offered at Ancaster High School. Announcements with signup or tryout information will be made prior to the season.

Note: there are several *grade 9 only teams*, as well as Junior (grade 9 &10 only), Senior (grade 11 & 12 only) and Varsity teams (all grades)

Fall Season Sports Teams

Sport:	Boys / Girls:	Grade 9:	Jr:	Sr:	Varsity:
Cross-Country	B & G	X	X	X	
Grade 9 Soccer	B & G	X			
Basketball	G		X	X	
Volleyball	B		X	X	
Field Hockey	G				X
Tennis	B & G		X	X	
Touch Football	G				X
Touch Football	B	X			
Football (tackle)	B				X
Baseball	B				X

Winter Season Sports Teams

Sport:	Boys / Girls:	Grade 9:	Jr:	Sr:	Varsity:
Hockey	B & G				X
Basketball	B		X	X	
Volleyball	G		X	X	
Waterpolo	B & G		X	X	
Swimming	B & G	X	X	X	

Spring Season Sports Teams

Sport:	Boys / Girls:	Grade 9:	Jr:	Sr:	Varsity:
Track and Field	B & G	X	X	X	
Soccer	B & G				X
Slo-pitch	G				X
Cricket	B & G				X
Football (Junior)	B		X		
Badminton	B & G	X	X	X	
Junior Hockey	B		X		
Volleyball	B & G		X	X	
Ultimate Frisbee	B&G				

Club Breakdown by Day

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Aerospace Dance Team Homework/Literacy Student Council Robotics (after school)	AAC Auto Safety Club Dance Team DECA Knitting/Crocheting Make-A-Wish Photo/Video Club Positive Space Concert Band (before school)	Homework/Literacy MAA Royal Gazette Yearbook Robotics (after school)	Aud Squad Business & Investment Dance Team HAT HOSA Rock Band Concert Band (before school)	Chess Club D & D Homework/Literacy MedLife Prayer (pm)

Daily Clubs	Special Schedule	
Announcement Crew Best Buddies Peer Tutoring	Blood Drive Heroes Graduation Committee (NST) Drama Festival Musical Theatre (semester 2)	